



WAKE FOREST URBAN FORESTRY BOARD

MINUTES

**August 13, 2012
7:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Don Daria, Anna Faatiliga Berg, Brian Haines, Sarah Hutchins, Wayne Pratt, Mike Reischman, Charles Sheffield, Will Opio

Members Absent: Suzanne Beaumont, Zachary Donahue (Ex-Officio)

Guests: Chris LaRocca

Staff: Evan Keto, Urban Forester

Call to Order

The August 13, 2012 meeting of the Urban Forestry Board was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Daria.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the July 9, 2012 meeting were provided to the UFB with the meeting agenda.

ACTION: Mike Reischman moved to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2012 meeting. Anna Faatiliga Berg seconded and the motion carried unanimously (9-0).

New Business

Green Medal Awards

ACTION: A Green Medal Award application provided by Evan Keto was approved unanimously (9-0), and will be presented at a Board of Commissioners meeting.

Sarah Hutchins will create a proposal for guidelines for the Green Medal Awards for the September meeting. Evan will look into issuing a press release with Bill Crabtree. The website and application forms should be updated to reflect the change from annual to monthly evaluations of applications for Green Medal Awards.

Hazard Tree Removal

The status of a large ash tree within the right-of-way along Juniper Avenue was discussed. It was agreed that the tree should be removed by the Town. A tree on private property adjacent to 823 N Taylor street was also discussed, and it was determined that because the tree is not dead or diseased, the UFB cannot require its removal.

Old Business

Unified Development Ordinance

Evan will continue to work with the Planning Department on the update, and UFB members are encouraged to submit their comments. The next meeting of the UDO Committee will be at 8 AM on Thursday, August 16, 2012, and focus on street trees.

Tree Inventory

The tree inventory is approximately 56% complete.

Urban and Community Forestry Grant

The Town has signed and returned the contract for the \$6,601 grant for the tree nursery, management plan preparation, and volunteer training programs.

Volunteer Opportunities

A number of UFB members have selected to volunteer to assist with different urban forestry projects. Additional roles are available, and will be finalized at the July meeting. Volunteers will discuss their progress monthly.

- Arbor Day and Tree Seedling giveaway: Anna Faatiliga Berg and Sarah Hutchins
- Education and Outreach Programs: Brian Haines
- Information Technology: Suzanne Beaumont
- Tree Management Plan: Mike Reischman, Don Daria
- Volunteer Tree Nursery: Will Opio

Arbor Day/Seedling Giveaway

Anna Faatiliga Berg and Sarah Hutchins are working on planning for Arbor Day and the Seedling Giveaway. The Seedlings have been ordered, including 1,300 eastern redbuds, 1,000 river birch, and 1,000 Southern catalpa. When a date is selected, Evan will reserve space in Joyner Park for this event.

Education/Outreach

Evan will lead a free Fall Foliage Tour on October 31, and Tree Care Classes on October 13 and November 3. Each Tree Care Class is \$15 and requires pre-registration with Parks and Recreation.

Tree Management Plan

A town-wide canopy analysis has been completed, and Don Daria has prepared a report on canopy coverage and goals for other municipalities. Seattle has presented its management plan with a focus on maximizing canopy, and it was generally agreed that this approach may be useful. Evan will send a draft outline for the management plan to the Board for review and to determine which sections to prepare first.

Tree Nursery

Will Opio and Evan will meet to discuss the layout of the nursery. The Town has signed the contract for the grant and the nursery project will begin in September.

Grants

Grant opportunities were discussed that may support various activities. It was agreed that available grant opportunities should be discussed monthly.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Don Daria, Chairman

Evan Keto, Secretary